

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claim Amendment Summary

Claims pending

- Before this Amendment: Claims 1-35.
- After this Amendment: Claims 1-35

Non-Elected, Canceled, or Withdrawn claims: None

Amended claims: 1-6, 12-19, 23-31, and 35

New claims: None

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving a request for content associated with a particular channel at a server, wherein the request is received from a client device;

identifying, at the server, service information data associated with the channel in response to receiving the request for content associated with the channel, wherein the service information data is configured to be used by the client device to tune to the channel, and wherein the service information data is stored in a database coupled to the server;

determining, at the server, how the content associated with the channel will be provided to the client device in response to identifying the service information data; and

sending instructions from the server to the client device, wherein the instructions notify the client device how to access the content associated with the channel.

2. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein determining how the content associated with the channel will be provided to the client device includes a transport type associated with the content.

3. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein determining how the content associated with the channel will be provided to the client device includes a codec type associated with the content.

4. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein determining how the content associated with the channel will be provided to the client device includes a transport type and a codec associated with the content.

5. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising:

receiving a second request for content associated with a second channel, wherein the second request is received from a second client device;

identifying service information data associated with the second channel;

determining how the content associated with the second channel will be provided to the second client device; and

sending second instructions to the second client device, wherein the second instructions notify the second client device how to access the content associated with the second channel.

6. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising:

receiving a second request for the content associated with the ~~particular~~ channel, wherein the second request is received from a second client device;

determining how the content associated with the ~~second~~ channel will be provided to the second client device, wherein the content associated with the channel will be provided to the client device according to a first format and the content associated with the channel will be provided to the second client device according to a second format that differs from the first format; and

sending instructions to the second client device, wherein the instructions notify the second client device how to access the content associated with the channel.

7. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein identifying service information data associated with the channel includes retrieving service information data from a service information server.

8. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the service information data associated with the channel includes at least one video component associated with the content.

9. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the service information data associated with the channel includes at least one audio component associated with the content.

10. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein identifying service information includes identifying an Internet protocol address associated with the content.

11. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein identifying service information includes identifying a multicast address associated with the content.

12. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein determining how the content associated with the channel will be provided to the client device includes identifying content formats supported by the client device.

13. (Currently Amended) One or more physical computer-readable storage media memories containing a computer program that is executable by a processor to perform the method recited in claim 1.

14. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving a request for channel map information at a server from a client device, the channel map information defining at least one of channels and services associated with respective channel numbers;

identifying current channel map information at the server in response to receiving the request; and

communicating the current channel map information from the server to the client device, wherein the current channel map information includes data regarding channels available to the client device, and wherein the client device uses the current channel map information to request content associated with a particular channel available to the client device;

receiving a request for content associated with a channel at the server from the client device after communicating the current channel map information to the client device;

identifying service definition data and network information data associated with the channel at the server in response to receiving the request for content associated with the channel, the service definition data specifying components of the content that are available and the network information data specifying a network address to tune to the channel;

determining, at the server, how to provide the content associated with the channel to the client device based on the network information data and the service definition data; and

sending instructions from the server to the client device, wherein the instructions notify the client device how to access the content associated with the channel.

15. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 14 further comprising:

receiving updated channel map information; and
communicating the updated channel map information to the client device.

16. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 14 further comprising:

receiving updated channel map information; and
communicating the updated channel map information to a plurality of client devices.

17. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 14 further comprising:

receiving a second request for channel map information from a second client device;
identifying second current channel map information; and
communicating the second current channel map information to the second client device, wherein the second current channel map information includes data regarding channels available to the second client device, and wherein the second

client device uses the second current channel map information to request content associated with a particular channel available to the second client device.

18. (Currently Amended) One or more physical computer-readable storage media memories containing a computer program that is executable by a processor to perform the method recited in claim 14.

19. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

generating a request for current channel information at a client device, the current channel information specifying a channel map that defines at least one of channels and services associated with respective channel numbers;

receiving current channel information at the client device from a video router;

storing the current channel information at the client device;

generating a request for content associated with a particular channel at the client device, wherein the request for content includes data from the current channel information associated with the particular channel;

receiving service information data associated with the particular channel ~~instructions regarding how to access content associated with the particular channel~~ at the client device from the video router; and

tuning to the particular channel at the client device utilizing the current channel information and the service information data, wherein the service information data does not persist at the client device after tuning to the particular channel ~~the requested content based on the received instructions; and~~

receiving user input at the client device to revise the channel map.

20. (Original) A method as recited in claim 19 wherein the received instructions identify a network address associated with the requested content.

21. (Original) A method as recited in claim 19 wherein the received instructions identify an encryption format associated with the requested content.

22. (Original) A method as recited in claim 19 wherein the received instructions identify a transport mode associated with the requested content.

23. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 19 further comprising:

generating a request for ~~current~~ updated channel information; and
receiving ~~current~~ updated channel information.

24. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 23 wherein the client device uses the ~~current~~ updated channel information to request content associated with a ~~particular~~ channel available to the client device.

25. (Currently Amended) One or more physical computer-readable storage media having stored thereon a computer program that, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform acts comprising:

receive a request for content from a first client device, wherein the requested content is associated with a specific channel;

determine a first transport type to provide the requested content to the first client device;

send first service information data from a remote database to the first client device in response to receiving the request for content from the first client device, the first service information data configured to be used by the first client device to tune to the specific channel according to the first transport type;

receive a request for the requested content from a second client device;
and

determine a second transport type to provide the requested content to the second client device; and

send second service information data from a remote database to the second client device in response to receiving the request for content from the second client device, the second service information data configured to be used by the second client device to tune to the specific channel according to the second transport type.

26. (Currently Amended) One or more physical computer-readable storage media as recited in claim 25 wherein the first transport type has an associated multicast address.

27. (Currently Amended) One or more physical computer-readable storage media as recited in claim 25 wherein the first transport type has an associated Internet protocol address.

28. (Currently Amended) One or more physical computer-readable storage media as recited in claim 25 wherein the first transport type provides the requested data in a first encryption format and the second transport type provides the requested data in a second encryption format.

29. (Currently Amended) One or more physical computer-readable storage media as recited in claim 25 wherein the first transport type provides the requested data in an MPEG format.

30. (Currently Amended) One or more physical computer-readable storage media as recited in claim 25 wherein the first transport type provides the requested data in a Windows Media technologies player format.

31. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a service information server to store service information data associated with a plurality of video channels; and

a video router coupled to the service information server, the video router to:

receive requests to tune a particular video channel from multiple client devices; ~~the video router further to~~

request respective service information data from the service information server each time that a request to tune to the particular video channel is received at the video router, wherein at least a portion of the requested respective service information data is configured with to be used by a client device requesting the requested particular video channel to tune to the particular video channel[[,]]; and ~~wherein the video router further determines~~

determine how to provide the particular video channel requested content to the each requesting client device based on the respective service information data.

32. (Original) An apparatus as recited in claim 31 wherein the service information data includes available video quality formats.

33. (Original) An apparatus as recited in claim 31 wherein the service information data includes available language formats.

34. (Original) An apparatus as recited in claim 31 wherein the service information data includes transport information associated with the requested video channel.

35. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as recited in 31 wherein the video router is coupled to a data communication network to receive video channel requests and to send data to ~~the~~ each requesting client device.